

## Giving from the heart... for the heart!

February is National Heart Month—a time to recognize the importance of cardiovascular health, and a special opportunity to support lifesaving care at RVH.

Several years ago, RVH set out on a mission to bring heart care to Renfrew. That access to cardiopulmonary diagnostics program at RVH means the world to patients who, through our partnership with the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, receive the same world-class care close to home.

Barbara Carriere, a Renfrew resident, has experienced the stress of attending appointments in the city for tests after valve replacement surgery in 2011. "It's the frustration of parking and I'm uncomfortable driving if the weather is bad," she shares. "It's a wonderful service for people in Renfrew and area to have." Our current echocardiogram machine has seen more than eight thousand hearts in its time. We need to replace this important piece of equipment so we can continue to meet the growing needs of our community. That is why we have launched the *Give With Heart* campaign and set out to raise \$25,000 towards the purchase of a new one.

A new machine will also ensure patients benefit from the most up-to-date technology.

"The new echo machine will allow us to obtain images with a higher resolution. It will also have 3D imaging to help better assess the structure and function of hearts," shares Sean O'Riley, RVH Echocardiographer.

By supporting the *Give With Heart* campaign through the Renfrew Victoria Hospital Foundation, you will have a big impact on thousands of hearts in our community.

## **DO YOU KNOW?**

- Cardiovascular disease is the number 1 killer of women and men.
- Heart disease and stroke take one life every 7 minutes!



 90% of Canadians have at least one risk factor.

(Resource: Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada)